Numb. 33.

THE REHEARSAL Of Obſervator, &c.

Of the Obſervation *of the Laſt* 30th *of* January, *at* Salters-Hall, Pinners-Hall, *&c.*

From Saturday March the 10th, to Saturday March the 17th 1705.

Obſervator. IN our Laſt we were upon Books Charg'd upon *Parties*, and by *Inuendo* and *Suppoſe* upon *Thee*, by my Worthy *Partner* and *Dear Brother* of *Scotland* the *Flying Poſt*. For We have *Dear Brethren* in *Scotland*; And are not Aſham'd to own our *Confederacy*.

But now he's upon Thee, upon Thee thy ſelf Directly, without Quoting any other *Author*, in his *Flying Poſt* of laſt *Feb.* 24. for the *Pſalm* thou ſaid'ſt in thy *Reheaſ.* N. 29. was ſung at *Salters-Hall* laſt 30th of *January*.

Country-m. Prithee, let me Alone. I deſire none of *YOUR* Help, neither *Yours* nor *His*. I love no ſuch *Seconds*.

Obſ. What do'ſt mean by *Help*, and *Seconds*? *WE Oppoſe* thee. Don't *WE*? I'm Sure *WE* Call thee *Ill Names* enough, as many as thou'lt Hear on the *Thames*, or at *Billing-gate*.

Country-m. And they Affect me Both alike. Free *Leave* you have to Go on with all that *Artillery*. But I am onely Afraid, leſt *Any* of *YOU* ſhou'd ſpeak *Well* of Me. That might Render me Suſpected to all *Honeſt* Men. They might be apt to ſay, What has he Done? To Purchaſe the Good Opinion of *Obſervator*, *Flying Poſt*, or Any of the *Scandalous Clubb*!

And it looks as if this were *YOUR Deſign*! For I cannot tell a *Story*, but preſently *YOU Two* come in as *Vouchers* for the *Truth* of it; tho' with *Hard* words, to *Cover* the *Intrigue*!

That I ſaid, That the *Cavalcade* at *Edinburgh* was by *Order* of the *Privy Council* there. Which ſome Cou'd hardly Believe, it was ſo *Monſtrous*! Then Comes *Flying Poſt*, and *Prints* the very *Order* for Me. And, That it might not be Forgot, *BAYS Prints* it again, in his next *Obſervator* of laſt *Feb.* 24. N. 90.

I was Really Tax'd by ſome Friends, for that *Pſalm* at *Salters-Hall*. And they were Apprehenſive my Intelligence had Fail'd me. And they expected it would have been *Deny'd*. Then comes *Flying Poſt* again, to help his *Friend*, at a *Dead lift*, And *Vouches* the *Truth* of It, and ſets it down in ſo many Words in his of the ſame *Feb.* 24. As do's *Obſervator* in his of *March* 3d N. 92.

And with ſuch ſenſeleſs *Excuſes*, as if he were telling all the World, he play'd *Booty*! As That there was a *Sermon* at the Time! And Moreover, That the ſaid *Sermon* had a *Text*! That ther's Another *Tranſlation* of the *Pſalms*, beſides *Sternhold* and *Hopkins*. But eſpecially, That it was *Impoſſible* they Cou'd Mean it, as to the *Day*, becauſe of their *KNOWN Loyalty*! Inſomuch that they wou'd tempt us to think, That the *King* Cut off his own *Head*! And was Prompted to it by *None* but the *Biſhops* and *Cavaliers*! Let them Name who Elſe did it! And ſee how many of that *Sort* they can find in *Salters-Hall*! The *Preſbyterians Vindication of Themſelves from the Murther of K.* Char. 1. is the Title of *Sect.* xiv. of *Caſſandra*, N. 1. And *Their Endeavours to Reſtore K.* Char. 2. is *Sect.* xv. This Book the *Flying Poſt* Names, and *Scolds* at it. But *Anſwers* not a *Tittle* to what is ſaid, and fully *Prov'd*, upon theſe *Heads* or any *Other*. Only *Repeats* the *Loyalty* of the *Preſbyterians* over again! As if nothing had ever been ſaid againſt it! This is their way of *Anſwering*! And they Call it an *Anſwer*!

Obſ. As I've often told thee. thou'ſt got a ſilly trick of *Proving*! And no *Proof* will ſerve thy Turn, but Matter of *Fact*! Which is neither *Civil* nor *Mannerly*! It ſpoils all *Converſation*! What! Dos't become a *Gentleman* to *Prove*? It's like *Knocking* a Man down with a *Mallet*. And whilſt thou holds on in that way, No other *Anſwers* ſhall thou Get from *US*.

Country-m. Wilt thou put me to *Proving* too, That the ſame Thanksgiving *Pſalm* that was *Sung* at *Salters-Hall*, was *Sung* likewiſe at *Pinners-Hall*, the ſame *Day*, that is, the 30th of *January* laſt?

Obſ. What if it was? May not that be by *Chance* too?! May not *Good WITS Jump*? But I'll Enquire, and if it was not ſo. *Wo* be to thee! Thou ſhalt be ſure to hear from Me. Otherwiſe, you may take it for *Granted*. And make your *Moſt* on't!

Country-m. And ſo I will. But I have a *Comment* to make thou little thinks on, upon your *Performance* at *Salters-Hall*, whereby we may Gueſs whether you had any thing in your View, of the *Mournfull* Subject of the Day.

Now ſuppoſe you had a mind to turn this into a *Day* of *Triumph* and *Jubilee*; But withall to *Cover* your ſelves ſo, as that it ſhould not lay you open to thee (*as YET*) *Scandal* of it, and (*Perhaps*) the Diſpleaſure of the *Government*: It was the moſt Proper and Eaſie method, in that Caſe, to Chooſe a *TRIUMPHAL* Subject, which might bring in a *TRIUMPHANT Pſalm*; Eſpecially that one, which beyond all the Reſt, Points at and Names a Particular *Day*, and *Fact*, *This is the Joyfull Day— This is the Noble Act*!

Obſ. Our *Clark* has a Particular *Affection* for that *Pſalm*, tho' upon *Mournful* Occaſions. He Sung it once at the *Burial* of his *Wife*! But, *as As the Bell Clinks, the Fool thinks.* You may *Fancy* what you will. But where's the *Proof*? You uſe to love *Proofs*!

Country-m.

Country-m. The Beſt *Proof* and *Comment* of a Man's *Words* are his *Actions*. Did you *Faſt* that Day, and Deny your ſelves a *Dinner*?

Obſ. That you know we never do! Or ever did, for any *Affliction* that Befell the *Church* or the *Crown*! *WE* wou'd not *Faſt* one *Day*, to ſave them both from *Ruin*! But *WE* have both *Faſted* and *Pray'd* to Pull them down!

Country-m. I follow'd you that Day from *Salters-Hall* to *Squire L——s*, where you were very well Entertain'd. And was there no *Diſcourſe* at *Dinner* concerning the *Day*, the *Sermon*, and the *Pſalm*?

Obſ. What Rogues among our ſelves! *WE* muſt Look Sharp to find out thy *Spies*! Cannot *WE* be Quiet for Thee in our own *Houſes* and *Cabals*? Or, haſt thou a *Familiar*? Come, what has he told thee?

Country-m. That there were ſeveral of your *Preachers* there. And that they were very *Witty*! And ſpeaking of the *Sermon* and the *Pſalm* Sung that Day, and Naming ſeveral *Texts*, Proper, as they thought, to the *Occaſion*. one of them, whoſe *Name* begins with an *S*—— ſaid, if it had been his turn to have *Preached* that *Day*, he wou'd have Choſen for his *Text* the words of *Martha* to our *Saviour*, *Joh.* xi. 39. *Lord, by this time he Stinketh.*

Obſ. I profeſs it was very *Ingenious*! And We *Laught* heartily at it. I wiſh I had ſaid it, that I might have been thought a *Wit*. But I was as Capable of it as he. For if it had come into my Head, I could have ſaid it, as well as he!

Country-m. I wiſh *YOU* wou'd Learn to *Jeſt* ſome other way than in *Scripture Phraſe*. Which I Obſerve Frequent among *YOU*. *YOU Cap TEXTS*, as *Boys* do *VERSES*.

Obſ. And it is for the ſame End, to fix them better in our Memories, that we may have them always Ready at hand. For the *Words* do us more ſervice than the *Senſe*.

Country-m. But to our Buſineſs. Did *YOU* not Really know that *Lecture-Day* of *YOURS* to be the 30th of *January*? Was it by meer *Chance*, That *YOU* were All upon *Triumph* that *Day*, in *Salters-Hall*, *Pinners-hall*, and We may ſuppoſe in the Reſt of *YOUR Conventicles*? Was there not ſo much as a *Glance* at the *Day*, in all *YOUR Merryment*, *by this time he Stinketh*, &c. Come *Confeſs* Ingenuouſly.

Obſ. O! *Popery! Popery!* A *Popiſh Prieſt*, I'le Warrant thee! Thou woud'ſt bring me to *Confeſſion*!

Country-m. Then I'll *Confeſs* for thee. *YOU* had more than Ordinary *Notice* of this laſt 30th of *January*. For on *Sunday* the 28th, the *Royal Proclamation* for the *Obſervance* of the *Day* was Read in our *Churches*; which your *Church-Whiggs*, and *Occaſional Conformiſts* cou'd not but tell *YOU*. And *YOU* thence Reaſonably Preſuming, that this wou'd be follow'd with very *Loyal Sermons* (as it was) upon the *Day*, *YOU* ſet *YOUR SELVES* to to the Utmoſt *Oppoſition YOU Durſt*, and *Reſolv'd* to Turn it to a *Day* of *Jubilee*.

But it would be ſome ſort of *Vindication* of *YOU*, if you Cou'd ſhew, That in any of *YOUR Meetings* that *Day*, *YOU* beſtow'd one *Tear* upon the *Royal Duſt*, or found the Leaſt *Fault* with the *Villanous Actors* of that Fatal *Tragedy*.

Obſ. WE did not Meddle with it at all. And was there any more Harm in that, than in ſome of your *Clergy*, who on the 8th of this Month, the Day of her *Majeſties* Acceſſion, ſaid not one Word of our late Glorious K—*William*?

Country-m. What had that to do with the Buſineſs of that *Day*? Wou'd you have had a *Hiſtory* of all her *Royal Progenitors*? But *YOU* make this a *Mark* of *Diſaffection* in any who bring not in the *Glories* of K— *William* upon Every *Occaſion*!

How then can *YOU* Acquit *YOUR SELVES*? Who upon the *Day* ſet apart on Purpoſe for the Memory of the *Martyrdom* of the *Royal Grandfather* of the *Queen*, and of which you were Minded in the *Royal Mandat* Read two Days before, ſtand *SULLENLY Silent*, and have not one Word to ſay upon the *Occaſion!*

Obſ. I tell you in Mine of the 3d *Inſtant*, N. 92 *That the Act of Parliament, not any Royal Mandat requires the Diſſenters to Obſerve that Day.*

Country-m. They both *Require* all the *Kings Loving Subjects.*

Obſ. But that is not the *Diſſenters.*

Country-m. The firſt *True* word I ever heard thee ſpeak! And who indeed Cou'd Expect it from thoſe, who have *Printed* ſo lately, *A Defence of the Parliament of* 1640, *and the People of* England, *againſt K.* Char. 1. *Falſly and Unjuſtly Call'd the Pious Martyr*, &c. *London. Printed*, 1698. Wherein they Endeavour to make him as *Black* as *Hell*, and Charge the *Iriſh Maſſacre* upon him. Which *Calamy* has ſince *Reprinted* from *Baxter*. And has Occaſion'd a Particular *Vindication* of his *Majeſty* from that vile *Aſperſion*, in a *Letter of Preſent Concern, to a Member of Parliament* 1702. to which no Reply has been made.

Who can Expect it from an *Obſervator*, who has, ſince her *Majeſty's* Happy *Acceſſion*, *TRIUMPH'D* over the *De-Collation* and *De-Truncation* of her *Royal Grand-Father*; And bid Us not *Cenſure* the *Wiſdom* and *Juſtice* of our *Fore-Fathers* in that Act? As I have ſeveral times told thee to thy Face, in my *Rehearſals*, and Quoted thy *Obſervators*. But thou ſtands *Mute*, and will not *Plead*, nor haſt one *Word* to ſay in thy own *Defence*! Yet now ſets up to Juſtifie *Others*.

Obſ. I told thee in my *Obſervator* before *Quoted*, N. 92. *That there is ſuch an Alteration in Principles*— As *not to be a Perpetual Recrimination on Parties.* And I ſuppoſe, That *this was not Deſign'd by the Makers of the Act for the Obſervation of the* 30th *of* January.

Country-m. Read the *Act* 12 Car. 2. c. 30. And the *Royal Mandat* purſuant to it, then thou wilt ſee what *Party* is there Deſign'd. And while the *Principles* remain the ſame, the *Party* is the ſame, tho the *Perſons* are Chang'd.

But what meanſt thou by *Alteration* of *Principles*? Is there one ſingle *Principle* of *Forty-One* that is *Alter'd* by *YOU*? Name it. Is it the *Radical Power* of the *People*? Is it the Doctrin of Calling *Kings* to Account? Do you not Aſſert theſe as *Violently* at this Day, as Ever they did in *Forty-One*? How then have you *Alter'd*, except to the *Worſe*!

Obſ. I tell thee in the ſame *Obſervator*, That *I had no hand in that Murder*, nor my *Father*. And the *Crimes* of the *Dead* ſhou'd not be *Charg'd* on the *Living*.

Country-m. Will you take ſuch an *Excuſe* from the *Papiſts*, or any others? Were not our *fore-Fathers* as much *Dead* the 5th of *November*, 1604, as on the 30th of *January*, 1648? Theſe are *Guilty* and *Senſeleſs EXCUSES*! As I told thee, *Parties* Remain, while *Principles* Remain. And *YOU your ſelves* Charge *Backwards*, and *Rip* up *Former* Doings. And making this an *Objection* againſt *Others*, is *Ridiculous*, and ſhews, That *YOU* are *SELF-CONDEMN'D*! And ſo I Leave *THEE*.

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